

Leyburn Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1950



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LEYBURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the public health services of the Rural District Council for the year 1950.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health :

W. SHARPE, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

W. SUTTON, M.S.I.A.

County Nursing Staff operating in district :

MISS K. E. MUNFORD, Leyburn.

MISS M. J. FAIRBURN, Redmire.

MRS. J. G. MCFARLANE, East Witton.

MRS. D. SMITH, Crakehall.

Ambulance Service.

The facilities provided by the County Council consist of an ambulance station at Richmond and Hospital Car Service vehicles which are located at Leyburn and Middleham.

Laboratory Service.

Public Health Laboratory, County Hall, Northallerton.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Area (in acres) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 63,613 |
| Population (Estimated Mid-year 1950) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,429 |
| Inhabited houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,753 |
| Rateable value | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £27,360 |
| Product of 1d. Rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £108 |

Population.

The population as estimated by the Registrar General at mid-year 1950 was 6,429, the comparative figure for the previous year being 6,390, showing a slight increase in the population of the District,

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | Males | Females | Total | Rates / 1000 Home Pop. | |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | Local | England & Wales |
| LIVE BIRTHS : | | | | | |
| Legitimate | 49 | 53 | 102 | 17.3 | 15.8 |
| Illegitimate | 4 | 5 | 9 | | |
| STILL BIRTHS : | | | | | |
| Legitimate | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.31 | 0.37 |
| Illegitimate | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| DEATHS : | | | | | |
| All causes | 38 | 28 | 66 | 10.3* | 11.6 |
| Maternal causes .. | — | 0 | 0 | 0.00* | 0.86* |
| Infants under 1 year of age | | | | | |
| Legitimate | 2 | 1 | 3 | 36.0† | 29.8† |
| Illegitimate | 1 | 0 | 1 | | |

* Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

† Rates per 1,000 live births.

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATHS.

| Cause of Death | Males | Females | Total | Rates / 1000 Home Pop. | |
|---|-------|---------|-------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | Local | England & Wales |
| ALL CAUSES | 38 | 28 | 66 | 10.3 | 11.6 |
| Tuberculosis | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | 0.36 |
| Other infective diseases .. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | — |
| Cancer | 3 | 3 | 6 | 0.93 | — |
| Cardio Vascular | 20 | 19 | 39 | 6.07 | — |
| Influenza | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | 0.10 |
| Pneumonia | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.31 | 0.46 |
| Other Respiratory Diseases | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0.47 | — |
| Digestive Diseases .. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | — |
| Nephritis and Hephrosis .. | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0.47 | — |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate .. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | — |
| Congenital Malformations | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9.01† | — |
| Other defined or ill-defined Diseases | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0.62 | — |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents .. | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0.31 | — |
| All other accidents .. | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | — |

† Rates per 1,000 live births.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

| Infectious Diseases Notified | Males | Females | Total | Rates / 1,000 Home Pop. | |
|---|-------|---------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | Local | England & Wales |
| Typhoid Fever | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Paratyphoid Fever .. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.01 |
| Meningococcal Infection .. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.02 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0.31 | 1.50 |
| Whooping Cough | 14 | 27 | 41 | 6.38 | 3.60 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.02 |
| Erysipelas | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | 0.17 |
| Smallpox | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Measles | 60 | 52 | 112 | 17.4 | 8.39 |
| Pneumonia | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0.47 | 0.70 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) | | | | | |
| Paralytic | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0.16 | 0.13 |
| Non-Paralytic | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.05 |
| Food Poisoning | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.17 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9.01† | — |

† Rates per 1,000 live births.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supplies.

The parishes of Patrick Brompton, Hauxwell, Hunton, Newton-le-Willows, Thornton Steward, Constable Burton and Hutton Hang are supplied from the Bedale Rural District Council's 8" main.

This supply has not been satisfactory especially in the Thornton Steward and Constable Burton areas, where there have been periods when no water was available. It is unlikely that any improvement in the supply will be obtained, until the link with the Sowden Beck main is completed. In view of the deplorable water supply to these villages this link should be treated as an urgency.

Leyburn.

During the summer months pumping from Whipperdale to augment the usual supply from the Cranehow source was again necessary. This obviated the necessity of restricting the supply to the town ship.

Middleham. This supply was adequate throughout the year.

Bellerby. The supply to this village was inadequate during the summer months and had to be augmented by pumping from the Bedale supply.

Finghall. During the summer months the pump failed to maintain an adequate supply. The pump was turned off and the reservoir fed from the Bedale Trunk Main through the Constable Burton-Cocked Hat main.

The following villages are all supplied by private water undertakings not maintained by the Council :— Carlton, West Scrafton, Arrathorne, Castle Bolton, Melmerby, Garriston, Redmire and Wensley.

Carlton. There is intermittent pollution of this supply which, therefore, cannot be considered satisfactory. Precautions are necessary to prevent animals and birds gaining access to the spring.

West Scrafton. The present supply is inadequate and samples of water from additional springs have been submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination and have been found to be satisfactory. The Council's engineer is now preparing a scheme for this village.

Wensley. The pressure here is good but the supply is subject to intermittent contamination.

Other supplies remain as in previous reports.

It is pleasing to report good progress on the Sowden Beck Water Scheme. The reservoir is under construction and a considerable length of delivery pipes has been laid. This scheme when completed will supply piped water to the parishes of East Witton, Spennithorne, Harmby, Wensley, Preston, West Witton and Swinithwaite and in addition will augment the existing supplies at Middleham and Leyburn.

As previously mentioned, a link between the Sowden Beck main and the supply pipe from the Bedale main will be made by the extension of the Danby line to Thornton Steward.

For details of water samples taken during the year see appendix.

Sewage.

Sewage Disposal Works are in operation in the following areas :—Leyburn, Middleham, Castle Bolton, East Witton, Swinithwaite, but there is an urgent need for sewers in many more villages.

At Leyburn the existing works are not capable of dealing with the increase of sewage which has taken place over recent years and new works are urgently required. The Engineer is

preparing a joint scheme for treating sewage from the parishes of Middleham, Leyburn, Harmby and Spennithorne.

New schemes are now in course of construction at West Witton, Newton-le-Willows, Patrick Brompton and Hunton.

Refuse Disposal.

The Refuse Collection Scheme is working satisfactorily. There is a weekly collection in the townships of Leyburn and Middleham and a fortnightly collection in other parishes. In addition night soil is removed from Hunton, Arrathorne and Hornby.

During the year the tip serving Middleham had to be closed due to its proximity to the River Ure. Refuse from Middleham is now being tipped at Leyburn.

Due to the growth of this service the present disposal methods are unsatisfactory and the tips inadequate. Additional suitable tips will have to be found.

Rivers and Streams.

Pollution of streams in the proximity of certain villages still persists, notably at Carlton, Harmby, Bellerby, Hunton and West Witton. These nuisances are likely to continue until sewage disposal works are provided.

Pollution is also taking place at a tributary of the River Cover near Coverham due to unsatisfactory milk effluent being discharged by the adjacent creamery. This pollution is seasonal and only occurs when cheese making is taking place. Steps are being taken to remedy this nuisance.

Camp Sites.

There is a Displaced Persons Camp in the neighbourhood of East Witton which is being run in a satisfactory manner.

Ice Cream.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district, but there are ten registered dealers as follows :—

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|---|
| Leyburn | ... | ... | 7 |
| Middleham | ... | ... | 2 |
| Bellerby | ... | ... | 1 |

Meat and Food Inspections.

The slaughter of animals is centralised at Leyburn. The conditions at the abattoir remain as in previous reports, and it is extremely desirable that the Ministry of Food, who are fully conversant with the position, take immediate steps to replace the existing slaughter-house with more up-to-date premises.

For details of meat and food inspections carried out see appendix.

Housing.

The housing position continues to improve but the supply has still not caught up with the demand. There are still too many unfit houses occupied, and too many cases of overcrowding awaiting more suitable living accommodation. 123 houses have been completed by the Council since the end of the war, distributed as follows :—

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----|----|
| Patrick Brompton ... | ... | 2 |
| Newton-le-Willows ... | ... | 2 |
| East Witton ... | ... | 4 |
| Constable Burton ... | ... | 6 |
| Finghall ... | ... | 8 |
| Leyburn ... | ... | 52 |
| Middleham ... | ... | 17 |
| Redmire ... | ... | 6 |
| Spennithorne ... | ... | 14 |
| Harmby ... | ... | 6 |
| West Witton ... | ... | 6 |

Twenty-four houses have been completed by private enterprise.

The tables appended show the progress during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. SHARPE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Thornborough Hall,
LEYBURN,
September, 1951.

APPENDIX.

INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT BY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

A total of 1108 Inspections were made during the year, and an analysis of these is given below :—

| | In- spections | Informal Notices | Not complied with | Statutory Notices | Not complied with |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Council's Works | 340 | — | — | — | — |
| Housing | 432 | 11 | 5 | 7 | 3 |
| Slaughterhouse | 260 | — | — | — | — |
| Dairies, Cowsheds | — | — | — | — | — |
| Public Health Acts .. | 76 | 7 | 2 | — | — |
| Total | 1108 | 18 | 7 | 7 | 3 |

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

| | Powered, Non- powered | Number on Register | In- spections | Number of Written Notices | Occupiers prose- cuted. |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority .. | 20 | 20 | 8 | — | — |
| (2) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies.. .. . | 45 | 45 | 4 | — | — |
| Total | 65 | 65 | 12 | — | — |

| Particulars | Powered | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---|----------|----------------------------------|--|
| | | Found | Remedied | Notified by H.M. Inspector | Number of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted |
| Want of Cleanliness | — | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable Temperature .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate Ventilation .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences : | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | — | — | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable | — | — | — | — | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes* | — | — | — | — | — |

* (In only four cases are there both sexes employed and sanitary conveniences are separate and adequate).

Trades.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Builders | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Plumbers | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Joiners | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Electricians | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Bakers | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Motor Repair Shops | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Blacksmiths | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Milk Receiving Depots | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Cheese Factory | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Sawmills | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Sand and Gravel | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Saddler | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Quarries | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Gas Co. | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | | | — |
| | | | | 65 |
| | | | | — |

HOUSING AND NEW BUILDINGS.

The tables below give details of houses under construction and those completed since 1945 in the respective parishes :—

By Private Enterprise.

| Parish | | | | Completed | Under Construction at end of year |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Leyburn | ... | ... | ... | 11 | 4 |
| West Witton | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Preston-under-Scar | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Coverham | ... | ... | ... | 6 | - |
| Thornton Steward | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Finghall | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Hunton | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Patrick Brompton | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Hornby | ... | ... | ... | 3 | - |
| Middleham | ... | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| Total | | | | 27 | 4 |

By Leyburn Rural District Council.

| Parish. | Completed | Under Construction at end of year |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Patrick Brompton | 2 | - |
| Newton-le-Willows | 2 | - |
| West Witton | 6 | - |
| Leyburn | 52 | 12 |
| Redmire | 6 | - |
| Middleham | 17 | 3 |
| East Witton | 4 | - |
| Harmby | 6 | - |
| Spennithorne | 14 | - |
| Finghall | 8 | - |
| Constable Burton | 6 | - |
| Preston | - | 3 |
| Bellerby | - | 10 |
| Hunton | - | 10 |
| Arrathorne | - | 4 |
| Thornton Steward | - | 4 |
| Total | 123 | 46 |

Works of adaptation have been carried out resulting in the provision of 13 flats and 5 new dwellings by private enterprise.

Building Licences.

The following table gives details of work licensed during the year 1950 :—

| | No. | Values |
|--------------------------------|-----|---------|
| New dwellings | 4 | £5,845 |
| Repairs and adaptations | 24 | £11,466 |
| Total | 28 | £17,311 |

Plans.

44 plans were considered during the year. Details are shown in the table :—

| Parish | New Build- ings | Altera- tions to dwellings | Garages and sheds | Cowsheds and Dairies | Other Build- ings | Total |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Wensley .. | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Leyburn .. | 7 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 14 |
| Agglethorpe-with- Coverham .. | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Carlton Highdale .. | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Middleham .. | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Patrick Brompton .. | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 |
| Preston-under-Scar .. | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 |
| Finghall .. | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Castle Bolton .. | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Harmby .. | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | 3 |
| West Scafton .. | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Bellerby .. | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 |
| West Witton .. | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 3 |
| Arrathorne .. | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Redmire .. | — | — | — | 3 | — | 3 |
| Hunton .. | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Carlton Town .. | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Spennithorne .. | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Newton-le-Willows .. | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Total .. | 8 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 44 |

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.

| No. | Date of Sampling | Address | Summary of Analyst's Report. |
|-----|---------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 3.5.50 | West Scafton West Spring | No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 2 | 3.5.50 | West Scafton East Spring | No contamination. Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 3 | 3.5.50 | Mr. J. Ryder, Arkleside. | Classified by Ministry of Health as "suspicious." |
| 4 | 9.5.50 | Whipperdale Supply, Leyburn | Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 5 | 9.5.50 | Tap in Bellerby Village. | No contamination with coliform organisms. |
| 6 | 23.5.50 | West Scafton. | Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 7 | 23.5.50 | West Scafton. | Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 8 | 30.5.50 | Tap in farm yard at Garrison village. | Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 9 | 12.6.50 | Carlton Town. | Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 10 | 5.6.50 | West Scafton, East Spring. | Suitable for domestic purposes. |
| 11 | 5.6.50 | West Scafton West Spring. | Suitable for domestic purposes. |
| 12 | 3.7.50 | Low Spring, Carlton. | Not suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 13 | 3.7.50 | Main Spring, Carlton. | Suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. |
| 14 | 21.8.50 | Mr. R. Wharin, Leyburn. | Suitable for drinking purposes. |

Chemical Analysis of Water.

| No. | Date & time taken | Address | Summary of Analyst's Report |
|-----|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 30/5/50 | Garriston Village | Suitable for human consumption |

MEAT INSPECTIONS.

| | Graded Animals | Casualty Animals |
|------------|----------------|------------------|
| Beasts ... | 444 | — |
| Cows ... | — | 225 |
| Calves ... | — | 93 |
| Sheep ... | 1516 | 150 |
| Pigs ... | — | 31 |

Total weight of meat and offal condemned, 20 tons, 5 cwt. 2 qr.

Total weight affected with tuberculosis, 5 tons, 5 cwt. 2 qr.

Details of Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

| | Cattle (excluding Cows) | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------|------|
| Number killed | 444 | 225 | 93 | 1516 | 31 |
| Number inspected | 444 | 225 | 93 | 1516 | 31 |
| All diseases except tuberculosis— | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | — | 56 | 10 | 58 | 7 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 256 | 119 | 7 | 37 | 9 |
| Percentage of number inspected with diseases other than T.B. | 58% | 78% | 18% | 6% | 52% |
| Tuberculosis only— | | | | | |
| Whole carcases condemned | — | 26 | 4 | — | 1 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 32 | 38 | — | — | — |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B. | 7.2% | 28.4 % | 4.3% | — | 3.2% |

Food Inspections.

During the year the following food stuffs were inspected and surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

| Article | No. | Weight (lbs.) |
|---------------------------|---------|---------------|
| Bacon | — | 29½ lbs. |
| Tinned Fruit | 18 tins | 45 lbs. |
| Pork and Beef Loaf | 3 tins | 2¼ lbs. |
| Roll of Bacon | — | 12 lbs. |
| Peas | 1 tin | 2½ lbs. |
| “ Patte-de-Fors ” | 3 tins | 1½ lbs. |
| Crab Paste | 1 tin | 8 ozs. |
| Sardines | 1 tin | 1¾ ozs. |
| Evaporated Milk | 10 tins | 18¾ pints |
| Polony | — | 2 lbs. |
| Sausages | — | 16 lbs. |
| Meat Pies | 1 dozen | — |
| Pressed Beef | — | 6 lbs. 6 ozs. |
| Brawn | — | 2 lbs. |
| Beef (Imported) | — | 248 lbs. |

